

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5760

DIA WASHDC

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

CIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MADRID 09451

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PINR, SP, US

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE FOR SPAIN

REF: USCINCEUR 141241Z AUG 78

1. (U) SUMMARY. HQ US EUROPEAN COMMAND, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH EMBASSY MADRID AND THE COMBINED MILITARY COORDINATION AND PLANNING STAFF (CMCPS) MADRID, IS REQUESTING BY SEPTEL A COMPREHENSIVE ALL-SOURCE INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE OF THE TOTAL SOVIET/WARSAW PACT THREAT TO THE GEOGRAPHIC AREA OF COMMON INTEREST (GACI) ESTABLISHED IN THE SPANISH-US TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION OF 1976. WE BELIEVE SUCH AN ESTIMATE, COMPLETED IN A TIMELY FASHION, WILL BE OF PRIME IMPORTANCE TO THE FURTHER SUCCESS OF CMCPS; WILL SUPPORT ACCOMPLISHMENT OF OTHER MISSION GOALS; AND WILL SERVE TO STRENGTHEN SUPPORT WITHIN THE SPANISH MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT FOR SPANISH MEMBERSHIP IN NATO. END SUMMARY.

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2. (U) BACKGROUND. CMCPS WAS INITIALLY A U.S. IDEA -- FORMULATED FOR THE POLITICAL NECESSITY OF FINDING A PARTIAL SUBSTITUTE FOR THE SECURITY GUARANTEE AND RECOGNITION BY NATO OF SPAIN'S CONTRIBUTION TO WESTERN DEFENSE WHICH COULD NOT BE OFFERED. NEVERTHELESS, IT WAS ALSO QUICKLY RECOGNIZED BY BOTH NATIONS AS ONE OF THE POTENTIALLY MOST INNOVATIVE AND PROMISING ELEMENTS OF THE NEW

TREATY. CMCPs REPRESENTED AN OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE A STRUCTURE OF CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE US AND SPANISH MILITARY AT A NEW LEVEL, ONE WHICH COULD PROVIDE THE SPANISH A SENSE OF MORE MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION IN AND RELEVANCE TO WESTERN DEFENSE.

3. (U) FROM THE OUTSET, THIS COMBINED EFFORT HAS HAD THE FULL SUPPORT OF EUCom, AND THROUGH IT OTHER U.S. AGENCIES IN WASHINGTON. THIS AND THE ACTIVE, ENTHUSIASTIC EFFORTS OF A WELL-SELECTED GROUP OF OFFICERS AT CMCPs HAS, DURING THIS FIRST YEAR OF CMCPs OPERATIONS, OVERCOME ANY REMAINING SPANISH MILITARY RELUCTANCE TO ENTER INTO COMBINED PLANNING ACTIVITIES OF MAGNITUDE AND SIGNIFICANCE, AND HAS, IN FACT, NOW LED THEM TO TAKE THE PLANNING EFFORT TO A MORE COMPREHENSIVE LEVEL.

4. (C) DISCUSSION. BASED ON ONE YEAR OF CMCPs PLANNING EXPERIENCE, AND THE INCREASING CONCURRENT INVOLVEMENT OF THE MISSION IN DESCRIBING NATO TO SPANISH AUTHORITIES, WE HAVE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT PURELY MILITARY THREAT ASSESSMENTS, WHILE CONTINUALLY IMPROVING IN QUALITY AND APPROPRIATENESS, WILL NOT SUFFICE IN THE FUTURE. AS AN EXAMPLE, LTG GALARZA, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPANISH JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, HAS URGED BOTH THE PREPARATION BY U.S. AUTHORITIES OF A MORE COMPREHENSIVE STATEMENT OF THE THREAT TO THE GACI AND THE EARLY JOINT DEVELOPMENT OF A CONFIDENTIAL

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GENERAL DEFENSE PLAN FOR THE AREA. TO BE USEFUL FOR THIS PURPOSE, ANY THREAT ASSESSMENT MUST CONVINCINGLY DEAL WITH POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS AS WELL AS THE MILITARY.

5. (C) IN ADDITION, LTG GALARZA HAS MADE NO SECRET OF THE FACT THAT HE BELIEVES THE ABOVE EFFORT WILL IMPACT DIRECTLY ON THE EVENTUAL SPANISH DECISION WITH RESPECT TO NATO, AN ISSUE ON WHICH A STRONG, FAVORABLE CONSENSUS AMONG SPANISH MILITARY LEADERS IS STILL LACKING. NOT KNOWING WHEN THE ISSUE WILL BE RAISED BY THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT IN PARLIAMENT, GALARZA WANTS THIS KIND OF INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

6. (C) IN HIS REPLY TO LTG GALARZA'S REQUEST, THE ACTING CJCS, ADMIRAL LONG, AGREED THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GENERAL PLAN FOR THE COMBINED DEFENSE OF THE GACI, TO INCLUDE PLANNING GUIDANCE ON SPAIN'S ROLE IN WESTERN DEFENSE, ARE IMPORTANT TASKS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED. THE JOINT MILITARY COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE US-SPANISH COUNCIL IS EXPECTED TO BE HELD IN SEPTEMBER TO DEAL, INTER ALIA, WITH THIS FURTHER WORK PROGRAM. IT SHOULD BE

NOTED THAT CMCPS PLANNING, ALTHOUGH BILATERAL IN NATURE, MUST BE DEVELOPED IN HARMONY WITH EXISTING SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS IN EUROPE, THAT IS, WITH NATO PLANS.

7. (U) THIS MISSION, THROUGH THE AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON NATO, IS ALSO CONCERNED WITH PROVIDING COMPREHENSIVE AND TIMELY ASSISTANCE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN AS IT SEEKS MORE DETAILS OF NATO MEMBERSHIP. THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ALL-SOURCE DOCUMENT OF THE SCOPE REQUESTED WILL ADDITIONALLY ASSIST THIS PARALLEL MISSION TASK.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 MADRID 09451

8. (C) CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS. THE EXISTING THREAT ASSESSMENT BEING USED BY SPANISH AND U.S. ELEMENTS OF CMCPS REPRESENTS ABOUT THE BEST PRODUCT WHICH CAN BE PRODUCED GIVEN THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE HERE. WHILE THIS ASSESSMENT HAS BEEN WELL-SUITED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMBINED DEFENSE PLANS DEALING WITH SPECIFIC THREAT AREAS, FUTURE THREAT ASSESSMENTS, TO BE USEFUL AND CONVINCING, MUST DEAL WITH POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE SOVIET/WARSAW PACT THREAT AS WELL AS THE PURELY MILITARY. AS DEMONSTRATED BY THE MARCH 1978 "HIGH-LEVEL SEMINAR" ON NATO, ONLY COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSES ARE HELPFUL IN REACHING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE THREAT AND WIDER ACCEPTANCE OF THE ADVANTAGES OF NATO MEMBERSHIP. WHAT IS NEEDED NOW IS AN ASSESSMENT WHICH SPEAKS FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND ADDRESSES THE BROADER QUESTION OF OVERALL SOVIET/WARSAW PACT OBJECTIVES WITH RESPECT TO

THE GACI.

9. (U) THIS MISSION, THEREFORE, FULLY ENDORSES EUCOM'S
REQUEST FOR A COMPREHENSIVE INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE AND HOPES
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THAT THIS TASK CAN BE GIVEN PRIORITY IN WASHINGTON.
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